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## PASADENA—THE CROWN OF THE VALLEY.

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Pasadena, the name adopted by the San Gabriel Orange Grove Association (earlier known as the Indiana Colony of California) for the home of its choice, is an Algonquin word, signifying the **key**, or the crown, of the valley. It lies at the extreme eastern end of the once wide domains of the San Gabriel Mission, and was considered one of its choicest possessions, from the abundance of wood and water and convenience of access from Los Angeles and the seaport of San Pedro. The grant of which it is a part was named San Pasqual, in remembrance of a friendly Indian chief, who was baptized at San Gabriel on the day of that saint while his tribe occupied the territory.

The first legally recognized owner was Eulalia Perez, an Indian woman, to whom the ranch was granted on the day of San Pasqual in recognition of her services as nurse and midwife. She died at Los Angeles about 1885 at the reputed age of 120 years, but, through her failure to occupy and improve the tract as the law required, at the expiration of the time specified in the grant it passed into the hands of Manuel Garfias, a popular officer and favorite of Gov. Micheltorena. He built a spacious adobe house on the bank of the Arroyo Séco, overlooking Garvanza, and made his home the seat of lavish hospitality. Only the best rooms had floors of wood, and the single chamber above was lighted by two dormer windows. This pioneer home was a favorite resort of the gay Angeleños, who pursued noble game into the forested cañons of the Sierra Madres by day and danced with the lovely señoritas all night, the lingering representatives upon this continent of the age of chivalry! Some of the oaks are yet standing where the señoritas hung their hammocks from the great limbs and awaited in "drowsy indolence" the return of the victors with their spoils. There was neither fruit tree or garden on the property. At dawn of day the Indian herders opened the corrals, when the bell mare, fleetest and most prized of the native stock, led the band of wild horses northward along the Arroyo Séco to crop the rich herbage of the Altadena highlands. The name given to this portion of the ranch, "La Sabañelles de San Pasqual" (altar cloth of San Pasqual), was descriptive of the glorious robe of poppies which can yet be seen by sailors far out at sea. Added to

these natural attractions, was the substantial encouragement given to horticultural enterprises, as seen in the profitable orchards and vineyards of B. D. Wilson, Gen. Stoneman, Messrs. Titus and Rose, with numerous smaller groves of the Alhambra, on the line of a railroad connecting the two oceans.

When the committee sent out from Indiana in August, 1873, to examine and report upon a location for a colony had completed their labors they were unanimous in favor of Pasadena, and the house is yet standing which sheltered the first inhabitant. But it was not until the 13th of November, when the effect of the financial crash of that year had somewhat abated, that the San Pasqual Land and Water Company was incorporated, B. S. Eaton of the Fair Oaks Ranch being made president and D. M. Berry secretary. After examining many sites in the neighborhood, the company purchased of Dr. J. S. Griffin of Los Angeles 4000 acres of the Rancho San Pasqual. To this a goodly slice was added on the east from a delightful oak-covered pasture of the Wilson estate. The name Pasadena (meaning either the key or crown of the valley) was suggested by Dr. Elliott, and met with general approval. At a critical moment in the negotiation Mr. Thomas Croft, one of the colonists, laid down the amount required in payment, and the home of the colony was secured.

In a similar spirit the separate allotments were made. It was an anxious moment when the twenty-seven incorporators met for that purpose on a commanding height with the maps and surveys for the selection of their individual homesteads, and the more delicate task of selection for the absentees whose proxies they held. In some cases the careful savings of years were devoted to secure a modest home, where a cherished invalid might lengthen out his days in a genial climate. Among the rest stood Calvin Fletcher, a wealthy citizen of Indiana and one of the incorporators, who proposed that the holders of single shares of stock should first make their selections, and so on in that order. When the distribution was over each of the twenty-seven stockholders had secured his chosen homestead, and improvements were begun immediately.

The first house in Pasadena had already been built by Mr. A. O. Bristol, and is still standing, at the junction of Lincoln and Orange Grove avenues. The huge pepper tree which overshadows it is also the pioneer of its species among the thousands seen in the modern city.

In three years from the time of purchase the face of the country was transformed by the young orchards and vineyards.

Nearly every shareholder was able to secure a wood lot along the bed of the Arroyo Séco, or in the foothills, thickly felted with grease

wood bushes, whose gnarled roots furnished excellent fuel. East Pasadena at that time was a scattered grove of oaks, through which a wagon track led to the Santa Anita Ranch. Many of these fine trees have been preserved.

Soon the work of home-making commenced in earnest, under conditions new to all the colonists. Letters to friends left in "the States" had little effect for a time, the inference being that sun stroke had turned the heads of the writers. A pencil sketch of a jew fish captured at Catalina Island by one of the colonists, with attestation of its weight, when passed around among his eastern neighbors, tended to deepen this impression.

The first marriage celebrated in Pasadena was that of Mr. Charles H. Watts to Millie, daughter of Major Erie Locke of Locke Haven. The primitive home of the young couple was a one-roomed cottage with a lean-to kitchen attached. Nevertheless, it was made to do duty as a church for the Presbyterians until Harvey Watts, the first child born in the colony, lifted up his voice in proof of Adam's fall.

The Pasadena settlement originally included Lincoln Park on the southeast and Altadena and the highlands on the northwest. The Arroyo Séco, having gathered its stream from unfailing sources in the Sierra Madre range of mountains, could be depended upon for an unfailing water supply as long as rains and snow should fall and the forest conservatories of springs and surface moisture were preserved. Within the limits of the purchase the stream meandered through a natural park, whose terraced banks were preserved from denudation by dense thickets of ceanothus, dwarf oak and manzanita. Five species of oaks, many of great size, filled the more open portions of the cañon, and giant sycamore trees protected natural ferneries even richer than those which yet linger in their mountain retreats. No pen could describe the glory of the poppy fields which filled the valley and swept northward in waves in gold.

As orange culture was the leading pursuit of the colonists, the entire tract became an almost solid grove. There were no division fences, and the modest homes, set far back from the streets, were soon lost behind the quick-growing eucalyptus and pepper trees. Many a traveler by the adobe road drew rein at Williams' store, the business center, to inquire the way to Pasadena.

The choicest locations were then considered those of the southern extremity of the tract, where each rounded hill commanded some charm of outlook unshared by the others. The selections of Messrs. Porter, Green and Dougherty were peculiarly happy, and among the first to be improved. That of the latter included a typical oak of grand proportions, which is still waving its green centaury, untouched

by the ax. Within the sound of the old mission bells, with the peerless Bacon Hill on the east and the richly-wooded eminence of Lincoln Park on the west, with the Arroyo Séco winding its silver thread through a richly-wooded foreground, and the sunny, undulating slopes of South Pasadena in the rear, it is little wonder that the first settlers of that section were unaffected by the boom in real estate, and saw without envy the costly villas covering every other eminence in their neighborhood. Nature so finished and decorated the work of their hands that the modest cottage of an early settler in South Pasadena has almost rivalled the mission as a point of interest for eastern travelers.

The Pasadenans soon learned that the relation of the young orange tree to its owner is not unlike that of a child to its parent—the returns for years of ceaseless labor and watchfulness depend upon many conditions besides those of heredity and environment, such as timely and abundant watering, frequent restriction by pruning, and long continued cultivation. “Plant the grape for your children, the orange for your grandchildren and the olive for your great grandchildren,” was a European adage often quoted by the packers in their intercourse with the early settlers of Southern California.

The first orange plantations were of mission pedigree, but gradually the Washington navel, which was first grown at Rivererside, the Mediterranean sweet, Saint Michael and many other foreign varieties were introduced. Many hedges were planted of the Mexican lime, and nearly all cultivated lemons. In many orchards deciduous fruit trees of various kinds were grown in alternate rows with the young citrus trees, to be relegated to the wood pile as the latter matured. The enchanting effect of these mixed orchards in their season of bloom is indescribable, especially when seen on a large scale, as at Baldwin’s Santa Anita ranch, where 40,000 almond trees lead a floral procession in which nearly every kind of citrus and deciduous fruit not strictly tropical is represented. The home orchards of Pasadena gave even greater satisfaction to their owners, being mostly cultivated by their own hands.

Upon one of the Pasadena homesteads, covering forty-two acres, was planted in 1878–1880: 700 orange trees, including the budded varieties; 50 lemons; 500 limes (in hedge); 100 apricots, of six varieties; 40 nectarines, six varieties; Smyrna and other figs, 50; apples, 75, of which twenty-five were crabs; cherries, 20; plums, 20; prunes, 200; peaches, 300; Japanese persimmons, 30 trees, ten varieties; English walnuts, set as shade trees on streets, 122; prepartuneus walnuts, 10; almonds, 20; butternuts, 20; chestnuts, native and Italian, 10; hickory, 10; pecan, 10. Of the small fruits the

then leading varieties of each were represented, and a considerable amount of strawberries were raised for market. One acre was devoted to blackberries. Fifty varieties of the grape were tested, and tons of Mucat and Muscatel and gordo blanco were marketed annually when these plantations matured. Cuttings by the thousand were made, and either sold or gratuitously distributed, until the mysterious vine disease appeared to annihilate even the venerable stocks of wild vines at the Mission San Gabriel and in the cañons. Only a few vineyards in the foothills escaped. It went as mysteriously as it came, and no effectual remedy was ever discovered.

Misfortunes never come singly, and the cottony cushion scale, which already had excited alarm, now threatened the extinction of the orange culture. It was a stranger in the land, and multiplied with unparalleled rapidity. The birds rejected it, and for a while Nature seemed to have no remedy in store. The pest had been imported upon ornamental stock from Australia, and was first observed at Temescal, near Oakland, in trimmings of acacia trees. About the same time the Los Angeles orchards were infested from another lot containing flame trees, which were distributed in the city, and one at least was planted at the Rose ranch. It wandered north as far as Santa Barbara, but fortunately for the State did not include the interior or northern counties in its ravages. The eastern part of Los Angeles and all of San Bernardino counties were exempted. All ordinary treatment failed, and the loss in production had become very serious, when the United States government took the matter in hand, and through the Bureau of Agriculture found in another coleopterous insect the *vedalia cardinalis*, a natural and ultimately effectual relief. The story of the propagation and distribution of this insect — savior of the groves — reads like a romance. But the end was not yet. With the spread of entomological knowledge, other predacious insects were discovered, and inspection became a recognized function of government. All this, though discouraging at the time, was not a serious check to the fruit industry, which has kept pace with the development in other directions, moving on and occupying new ground as the pressure of population demanded.

The following compilation from the report of the Board of Trade is a careful estimate of the number of bearing fruit trees within the city of Pasadena and in its immediate vicinity :

Seedling oranges over ten years old, 210,000.

Seedling oranges from five to ten years old, 6,000.

Over ten years old, 28,700.

From five to ten years old, 27,900.

Under five years old, 15,000.

Lemons : Lisbons and Eurekas, 10,000.

Total acreage in oranges, 1,350.

Total acreage in lemons, 150.

Total acreage in deciduous fruits and olives, 1,500.

In 1890, 75,000 boxes of oranges were shipped to eastern market, besides the enormous quantities manufactured into marmalade and crystalized. The Bishop Loop Company employed from twenty-five to fifty hands in this work for four months, turning out twenty-five tons of the finished product, which commanded the highest prices in the markets of the country.

The young prune orchards now came to the front, and from 1888-92 the centers of activity in the preparation of deciduous fruits for market drew hundreds of visitors.

During all these changes Pasadena continued to attract greater numbers of health seekers who, tired of wandering from Maine to Florida and even in foreign lands, were looking for country homes in the neighborhood of Los Angeles. In our day, when a great movement of population is in the air, the same Providence who guides the migration of birds, sends in advance the projector of a mammoth hotel. Thus the far famed Raymond Hotel took root upon a hill which seemed made to order for such a purpose, and was both a consequence and cause in the march of events.

In its open season of 1886-87, thirty-five thousand guests were registered, and of these not a few became permanent citizens of Pasadena. From there mountain excursions and sea side enjoyments could be brought into the pleasures of a single day, and the old mission of San Gabriel was an inexhaustible source of interest. Southern California seemed truly "Lotus land" to the tourists, the winter opening with a tournament of roses in Pasadena and a floral carnival in Santa Barbara.

Hardly had the original San Pasqual settlement gathered its first orange than that of Lake Vineyard on the east began to show its rows of young trees. This enterprise was chiefly promoted by citizens of Oakland, among whom were Caspar T. Hopkins and Edward McLean. Here the largest solid block of orange trees—one thousand acres—was planted and cultivated under one management for several years, until, under the pressure of population, it was swallowed up in the growth of Pasadena. It was a trifling matter to create a home when so much of beauty and use had already been developed.

In 1874 the first school house in Pasadena was built on Orange Grove Avenue, under a grand old oak and in close neighborhood to the first (Methodist) church. Miss Jessie Clapp was the first teacher.

In the summer of 1878 the San Pasqual school house was built in the business centre of the town, upon land donated for the purpose by B. D. Wilson. As this was too remote for pupils in the south part, a five acre lot was purchased from A. O. Porter and a neat building erected where now stands the charming home of Mr. C. D. Daggett. To-day the public schools are accommodated in six buildings, four of which are not surpassed in California. They are surrounded with beautiful grounds, neatly kept, and have cost \$135,000. Thirty-four teachers are employed, under a competent superintendent. Nearly 1500 pupils are in attendance, at an expense to the city of \$32,257.52, of which \$26,537.49 was for teachers' salaries. The work of education is further supplemented by excellent classical and other private schools, among which those of the Misses Orton, for girls, and the classical school of Prof. Clark, for boys, deserve honorable mention. The ladies Orton, Vassar graduates, are also daughters of that eminent teacher and explorer, whose work upon the Andes and the Amazon is in all our libraries. Last and most important, as illustrating the trend of modern education, is the Throop Polytechnic Institute, a school of technology, with a classical and literary annex, the gift of Hon. A. G. Throop. This venerated citizen has set a wise example in being his own executor.

The limited space allotted for this story of Pasadena does not allow more than the briefest allusion to the beauty of its homes, the comfort of its hotels and boarding houses, with the Raymond heading the list. Unhasting and unresting, its people have been building better than they knew. The value of their work as represented upon the Assessor's roll was, in 1893, \$5,473,820. The assessable values in health, happiness and social improvement must be estimated in the future.

The story of Pasadena in its second decade is one of still greater development, of less picturesque interest. Its street improvements have kept pace with the increase of population, and railroad facilities have made it practically suburban to Los Angeles. One may ride from Lamanda Park, on the southeast, to Lincoln Park, on the southwest, through a continuous belt of orchards and homes, each conveniently near a railroad station. An interesting chapter might be written of the educational development of the city, ending with the founding of the Throop Polytechnic Institute, on the principles announced by Ezra Cornell, "Where any man (or woman) may find instruction in any study." Another prominent citizen, wise in his generation, gives the whole Sierra Madre mountain range, with its treasures of fertility and beauty, in the construction of the Lowe



Mountain Electric Railroad. As night drops her curtain upon the valley and twinkling stars appear in the blue above, a line of light runs up the mountain side, and as mysteriously loses itself. The principles of use in beauty, and beauty in use, are everywhere exemplified in the story of Pasadena.